

CURRY COLLEGE

2020-2021 BEN HIDALGO AWARD FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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Despite the challenges of the pandemic, I have continued to explore music as a tool for community-engaged scholarship and practice at Curry and beyond, pivoting to new modes of delivery to collaborate and share a vision of arts as a platform for cultivating joy and belonging - as well as sense of social responsibility and engagement.

COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH AND PRESENTATIONS:

- Invited Speaker at the Choral Commons, a podcast discussing choral practice, where I discussed my community engaged work teaching music in prisons (July 15, 2020).
- Invited Panelist at an Arts Emerson (Emerson College) panel called "Bangsokol Gala Performance and Audiences' Responses from Around the World," where I shared my research on a community engaged performance project produced by Cambodian Living Arts (December 13, 2020).
- Recipient of a Marion and Jasper Whiting Grant to pursue a community-engaged research project examining Steel Pan practice and pedagogy in Trinidad and Tobago.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AT CURRY:

Established a music lecture, performance, and concert series called PLAY: SERIOUS. FUN. comprising:

- PLAYLIST Outdoor DJ Sessions: Hosted student/faculty/staff DJ sessions.
- PLAY IT Open Mic Nights: Collaborated with students to organize 4 live and virtual events.

Two were charity events, raising funds for Milton/Mattapan COVID relief (Neponset Neighbors Together Fund) and Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

ARTISTS AT PLAY Guest Artist Series:

- Organized virtual performances/workshops on Brazilian drumming with Marcus Santos of Grooversity, contemporary music production with Matt Hines and Rachel Alix of iZotope, and jazz piano with José Soto.

The events were free and open to the public, including numerous virtual guests from neighboring Fuller Village - and, during José's concert, virtual guests from Costa Rica!

Organized live and virtual performance experiences including:

- ONE LOVE: A Concert for Healing (Nov. 18, 2020) - an outdoor concert by SING!
- "Crowded Table" - a music video created with SING!
- THE PASSAGE (May 6, 2021) - an outdoor concert collaboration between the Music and Dance Programs
- Collaborated with 91.5 WMLN and Student Activities to produce SYNC'D UP - an outdoor music festival (May 1, 2021)

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BEYOND CURRY:

Conductor for the Boston Children's Chorus, where we continued to deliver:

- Virtual programming for 500 singers from across the greater Boston area, treating music as a means of promoting social inquiry and precipitating social justice.
- Virtual performance opportunities including our annual Martin Luther King Jr. tribute concert, adapted for the COVID era.
- Virtual collaborations, commissioning projects, and music videos with artistic luminaries including Keb' Mo', Jazzmeia Horn, Martha Gonzalez, and Layth Sidiq.
- Score Reader and Video Editor for Boston Symphony Orchestra, where we pivoted to online content delivery for the "BSO At Home" concert series to reach a broad audience during the pandemic.